

BOLL WEEVIL—PROVIDING FOR THE EXTERMINATION OF.

H. B. No. 243.]

CHAPTER LIII.

An Act to appropriate \$50,000.00 to be paid to any one who will discover and furnish a practical remedy that will exterminate the cotton boll weevil, and \$2,500.00 for expenses and per diem of committee to pass on the findings of said person or persons.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:* That the sum of \$50,000.00 be and is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of discovering a practical remedy for the destruction of the boll weevil, said money to be used as hereinafter set forth, to-wit: That said money be held in the State Treasury subject to a warrant drawn thereon signed by the Governor, President of A. & M. College and the Commissioner of Agriculture of Texas. That said persons shall constitute a board whose duty it shall be to offer in the name of the State of Texas the said named \$50,000.00 to any person or persons who shall discover and furnish a practical remedy for the destruction of the cotton boll weevil in Texas. That said money shall not be drawn from the Treasury until it has been thoroughly proven as hereinafter provided that the person or persons in whose favor the warrant is drawn have produced a practical remedy that will destroy the cotton boll weevil. Said board of three as aforesaid shall act jointly with a committee of five practical farmers to be appointed by the Governor from five representative districts of the cotton producing belt of the State where the cotton boll weevil is prominent.

SEC. 2. The sum of \$2,500.00, or so much thereof as is necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated to pay the expenses and per diem of the board appointed to pass on the remedy produced, said money to be used out of any money not otherwise appropriated and paid out under direction of the Governor; provided, that each member shall be allowed \$5.00 per day for his services. The persons presenting their claims for said reward must subscribe to the following oath, to wit: I..... have discovered a practical method by which the cotton boll weevil can be destroyed, at a cost of not more than one dollar per acre per annum, and cause no bad effect to the cotton. My method is so economical that it can be used by all cotton planters.

SEC. 3. And it is further required that said five practical farmers, reputable citizens shall subscribe to the following oath: I..... swear, or affirm, that I have witnessed experiments and applications of Mr..... in the destruction of the cotton boll weevil at..... I further swear, or affirm, that this method of destroying the weevil is so economical and practical, that if followed as directed by..... will effectually destroy the weevil affecting cotton. That I have witnessed the test made for the destruction of the cotton boll weevil..... that I have not received anything or been offered anything of value to secure my vote or influence in securing the reward for the party or parties claiming the same, and I do further swear, or affirm, that, to the best of my judgment that the method offered by....., which I have seen tested, is economical, practical and will destroy the cotton boll weevil if followed as directed.

SEC. 4. That after the person or persons claiming the said reward, and having complied with the above demands, he or they shall report to the Governor that he or they have discovered a practical remedy for the destruction of the cotton boll weevil.

SEC. 5. It shall then be the duty of the Governor to appoint five practical farmers, of good character and reputation, as aforesaid, selecting one from each of five Representative districts of the cotton producing belt of Texas, who shall assemble at a place designated by the Governor, where experiments will be carried on by the party or parties claiming said reward, and in case of refusal, resignation or disqualification of any member of the committee, the Governor shall appoint another from the Representative district so vacated to fill his place.

SEC. 6. Those who have been selected by the Governor to pass upon the practicability, expediency of the method by which he or they propose to kill or destroy the cotton boll weevil, shall subscribe to the following oath:

I do solemnly swear that I am not related to the party or parties who are now claiming said reward, neither am I in any way interested in his patent or proposed means of destroying the cotton boll weevil.

SEC. 7. After a fair test or tests covering all points claimed by the inventor or discoverer of a practical remedy for the destruction of the cotton boll weevil have been made, or may be made from time to time covering two consecutive years, to satisfy fully all members of the committee appointed by the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture, and the President of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, that the remedy proposed by the party or parties having been given a fair test for two consecutive years under every requirement of the committee appointed by the Governor, and having been by them declared to be so economical, practical and effective and that the cost of same does not exceed one dollar per acre per annum, will so report to the Governor, in writing, giving in full the details of the experiment witnessed, and recommending that the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture and the President of the A. & M. College to pay to the party or parties who have made the test the reward offered by the State of Texas.

SEC. 8. After the aforesaid board of practical farmers acting jointly with the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture and President of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas have passed on the claims of all who make application for the aforesaid reward, and have decided upon the most meritorious claim presented as hereinbefore required then shall a period of two successive years elapse in which the people may put into practical application the remedy recommended. And if at the expiration of the two years it has, in the judgment of the aforesaid board, proven a success, the \$50,000.00 shall be awarded to the person or persons discovering or inventing said remedy. Provided, that the insecticide, device or machine, if patented, or if an insecticide the formulæ of same shall be conveyed to the State of Texas before said party competing for the prize shall have the right to have same tested by the board free of charge; provided, further, this remedy shall not interfere with the discovery of any remedy by the State of Texas in the experimental station, or by the A. & M. College; and provided, also, no man shall receive any benefit until he first proves that he was the first discoverer of such

remedy, and the Governor shall have the right at any time to suspend this appropriation provided a satisfactory remedy has in his judgment been discovered by the state experimental board.

[NOTE.—The foregoing Act was presented to the Governor of Texas for his approval, on the 23rd day of March, A. D. 1903, but was not signed by him nor returned to the house in which it originated, with his objections thereto within the time prescribed by the Constitution, and thereupon became a law without his signature.—J. R. CURL, Secretary of State.]

Takes effect 90 days after adjournment.

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE—ADDING DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

H. B. No. 103.]

CHAPTER LIV.

An Act to add to the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas a department of instruction in the theory and practical art of textile and kindred branches of industry; and to make an appropriation therefor.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:* The board of directors of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas is hereby directed and required to establish at and in connection with the said college, a school or department for instruction in the theory and practical art of textile and kindred branches of industry whose main purpose shall be to train students in the theory and practice of cotton manufacturing, in all its branches, from the raw cotton to the finished fabric.

SEC. 2. The said board of directors is hereby invested with full power and authority to erect the buildings, purchase the necessary machinery and equipment, and generally to do and perform all acts necessary to establish and maintain said school or department.

SEC. 3. The sum of \$50,000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of establishing such school or department.

SEC. 4. The crowded condition of the calendar, and the importance of textile manufacturing in the industrial life of the people, create an emergency and an imperative public necessity requiring the suspension of the Constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days, and said rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage; and it is so enacted.

[NOTE.—The enrolled bill shows that the foregoing act passed the House, no vote given, and passed the Senate, no vote given.]

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